



**Atlas of Canada 6th Edition
(archival version)**

Watersheds

A watershed is an area that drains all precipitation received as a runoff or base flow (groundwater sources) into a particular river or set of rivers. The easiest way to describe the network of rivers and lakes on a small-scale map is to show the watersheds. In Canada, there is a detailed hierarchy of watersheds, ranging from the largest (drainage into oceans and their equivalents), down to the smallest ramification. Canada's ocean watersheds are the Atlantic Ocean, Hudson Bay, Arctic Ocean, Pacific Ocean and Gulf of Mexico.

0 150 300 450 600 km
Lambert Conformal Conic Projection. Standard Parallels 49°N and 77°N

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Watersheds | Populated Places | Boundaries |
| • Ocean Watersheds | • 1 - 49 999 | • International |
| • Arctic Ocean | • 50 000 - 49 999 | • Provincial / Territorial |
| • Atlantic Ocean | • 50 000 - 99 999 | • EEZ (200 mile) |
| • Gulf of Mexico | • 100 000 and greater | • Canada / Kalaallit Nunaat dividing line |
| • Hudson Bay | • Provincial and Territorial Capital | |
| • Pacific Ocean | • National Capital | |
| • Closed (internal) Watersheds | | |
| • Closed Watershed | | |
| • Watershed Boundaries | | |
| • Ocean Watershed Boundary | | |
| • Watershed Boundary | | |

Source(s):
Watersheds
Natural Resources Canada. 2006. Atlas of Canada Watershed Framework.
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